

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Re: Appointment of Mr Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur, Judge, High Court of Bombay [PHC: High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh], as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur.

The office of the Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur has fallen vacant recently consequent upon the elevation of Mr Justice P V Sanjay Kumar to the Supreme Court of India. Therefore, appointment to that office is required to be made.

Mr Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur is the seniormost Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. He was appointed on 08 March 2013 and has been functioning, on transfer, as a Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Bombay since 10 June 2022. The High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh does not have representation among the Chief Justices of the High Courts since the retirement of Mr Justice A M Magrey. Over a long period of time no Judge of Jammu & Kashmir origin has been elevated as Chief Justice of a High Court or as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India.

In terms of the Memorandum of Procedure, consultation was held with consultee-Judge/s on the suitability of Mr Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur for appointment as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur. The consultee-Judge/s have concurred with the proposal for the appointment of

Mr Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur.

Having regard to all relevant factors, the Collegium is of the considered view that Mr Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur is fit and suitable in all respects for being appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur.

The Collegium, therefore, resolves to recommend the appointment of Mr Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur.

(Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud), CJI

(Sanjay Kishan Kaul), J.

(K.M. Joseph), J.

09 February 2023.

